



Middle Arkansas Newsletter

Upcoming Events

July 8

UABAC Meeting, TBA

July 9

GMD No. 5 Monthly Board Meeting, Stafford, KS

August 13-14

Kansas Water Authority Meeting, Salina

August 13

GMD No. 5 Monthly Board Meeting, Stafford

September 10

GMD No. 5 Monthly Board Meeting, Stafford

October 8

GMD No. 5 Monthly Board Meeting, Stafford

November 12

GMD No. 5 Monthly Board Meeting, Stafford

December 9

Water Issues Forum: Water and Climate, Wichita

December 10

Water Issues Forum: Water and Climate, Hays

Basin Management Team

Exploring WIMAS - Accessing Water Right Information Online

The Kansas Geological Survey and the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Division of Water Resources have jointly developed an Internet-based program that provides information for all water rights in Kansas. The Water Information Management and Analysis System can be accessed through the KGS website at www.kgs.ku.edu. From the KGS home page, look for the WIMAS link under the water heading. It will take you to the program.

The information available through WIMAS is all part of the public record. It includes the type of water right (irrigation, recreation, municipal, etc.), the physical location of the point(s) of diversion, authorized place of use, rates, quantities and storage (for surface water). There also are buttons within the program that will create maps and graph water use trends for areas defined by the user.

WIMAS offers many ways to search for information regarding water rights. The quickest way is to have the actual water right file number available. However, if the number is not known, a user can search using a legal description of the well or point of diversion, by latitude and longitude, or by county.

There are several filter options to narrow a search, including whether the water right is active or if the water right is sourced from groundwater or surface water.

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“Water links us to our neighbor in a way more profound and complex than any other.”

-John Thorson

2008 Middle Arkansas River Subbasin Field Summary Available Online

Each year, the Basin Management Team compiles annual summaries of hydrologic data for each project area, and the 2008 Middle Arkansas River Subbasin area summary is now available. Data includes USGS streamflow, National Climatic Data Center precipitation, water levels and water use. The summary also includes general background information about the geographic area.

Precipitation levels were well above average for 2008. Most of the Arkansas River water levels continued to climb from 2007 levels, although some Edwards County monitoring wells reflected a decline. Continued monitoring of hydrologic conditions and their response to climate variations is important for evaluating the long-term effects of water use on the subbasin. It is just as important to understand how the system responds to recharge events as it is to understand the impacts of pumping and other factors on the hydrologic system.

For more detailed information from the field summary, visit our website at www.ksda.gov/subbasin/, select the Middle Arkansas River Subbasin and then Field Summaries.

Exploring WIMAS (continued from page 1)

Once a water right is searched and selected, a WIMAS water right information sheet is brought up that provides available information and options for other searches. If a user wants to look at a well log for a groundwater right, the WWC5 well log database can be searched by clicking the button ‘Search WWC5.’ This takes the user to the WWC5 website where all available well logs for the section in which the water right is located. However, not all groundwater rights will have a well log online.

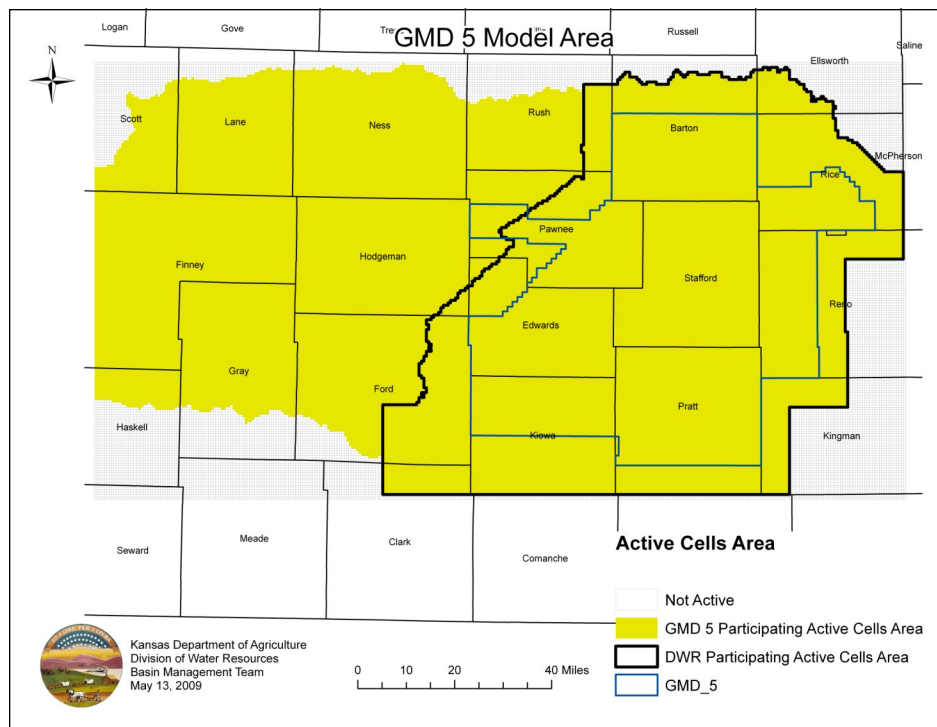
Another option is to graph the annual water use history that has been reported for the water right. After clicking on the ‘Graph Water Use History’ button, the page will reload and display a graph and corresponding table with the reported water use numbers at the bottom of the page.

WIMAS provides many options to the user willing to explore this informative online program.



GMD 5 District Wide Model

Groundwater Management District No. 5 and the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Division of Water Resources have signed a memorandum agreeing to work together to develop a groundwater model of the GMD 5 district. The goal is to develop a model that can be used by both GMD 5 and DWR to help explain historical groundwater conditions and assess future management options. GMD 5 has contracted Bal-leau Groundwater, Inc. of Albuquerque as lead modeler. DWR has contracted S.S. Papadopoulos and Associates to act as peer reviewer.



The model currently is in the calibration phase, and it is expected to be complete by December 2009. A final model report will be written and made available to the public. For general information about a groundwater model, visit www.ksda.gov/subbasin/content/317.

Independent of DWR, GMD 5 will extend the groundwater model west into the Upper Arkansas River, Buckner Creek and Pawnee River valleys.

KDA Newsletter Sign-Up Opportunities

The Kansas Department of Agriculture is set to launch a quarterly newsletter called the KDA Connection. You can sign up for this newsletter at www.ksda.gov/mailling_list/

Don't forget that the Division of Water Resources also publishes a quarterly newsletter that provides information on Kansas' water resources. You can sign up for this newsletter online at www.ksda.gov/dwr/.

The Basin Management Team continues to provide bi-annual publications with the latest news and events for seven targeted project areas. To sign up for these bi-annual publications, visit our website at www.ksda.gov/subbasin/mailling_list/.

All of these newsletters are distributed electronically or can be viewed online.

***"If there is magic on
this planet, it is
contained in water"***

***-Loran Easley,
The Immense Journey,
1957***

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BMT Mission Statement

To analyze aquifers and stream systems in targeted areas and work with stakeholders to develop and assess strategies to protect water rights and improve hydrologic sustainability.

The program uses a five-phase process that includes:

- **Initiating the project**
- **Analyzing and educating**
- **Evaluating alternatives**
- **Making recommendations**
- **Implementation**

Visit www.ksda.gov/subbasin/ to learn more about the process.

KDA-DWR Stafford Begins Annual Focus on Field Inspections

The Division of Water Resources' Stafford field office has begun its annual push to perform field inspections for water appropriations within the field office boundaries. Before a water appropriation can become a water right, an on-site field inspection must be conducted to measure the rate of water flow from the authorized point(s) of diversion. Inspections of irrigation, thermal exchange and stock watering permits will be conducted first. Postcards were sent to 173 individuals asking for the recipients to contact the Stafford field office to set up a time for the inspection. Postcards for other uses (municipal, recreational and industrial) will be sent later this year. During this inspection season, water appropriations with a perfection period ending on or before December 31, 2011, were contacted. Postcards were sent for five water appropriations within the Middle Arkansas River Subbasin.

